**To:** Enck, Judith[Enck.Judith@epa.gov]
**From:** Laurel Schaider
**Sent:** Mon 8/22/2016 8:44:22 PM
**Subject:** Re: Silent Spring Institute research on PFASs in drinking water

Dear Judith,
Will do! Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Best,
Laurel

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Laurel Schaider, PhD
Research Scientist
Silent Spring Institute
***Leading environmental health research to identify opportunities for prevention***
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On Mon, Aug 22, 2016 at 4:25 PM, Enck, Judith <Enck.Judith@epa.gov> wrote:

> Hi dr Schaider. Thank you for contacting me. I am out of the office until Labor Day. After Labor Day please call me at 212 637 5000. Thanks. Judith
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Aug 22, 2016, at 7:15 AM, Laurel Schaider <schaider@silentspring.org> wrote:
>
> Dear Administrator Enck,
>
> Dick Clapp at Boston University suggested that I reach out to you. I am a water quality researcher at Silent Spring Institute, a research organization dedicated to understanding links between chemicals in our daily environment and health. We have been studying per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) in drinking water on Cape Cod since 2010, and have been following the unfolding situation in Hoosick Falls and elsewhere. I would welcome the opportunity to talk with you to learn more about the current situation in Hoosick Falls and more broadly in Region 2, and to discuss potential ways that Silent Spring Institute could assist.
>
> Dick and I are both serving as technical advisors for the ATSDR Community Assistance Panel at the former Pease AFB in Portsmouth, NH. A public well serving the current Pease Tradeport District was found to have highly elevated PFOS, and a local organization, Testing for Pease, successfully advocated for blood testing for residents, including children who attended daycare at Pease. Dick and I presented at a

community event organized by Testing for Pease to assist residents in interpreting the results of blood testing conducted by the State of NH. Residents had many questions about how to interpret their results and some felt the report-back materials they received did not adequately address their concerns.

The Testing for Pease group has requested that the State of NH consider using an innovative digital report-back interface developed by Silent Spring Institute called DERBI (Digital Exposure Report-Back Interface). For years, our team at Silent Spring Institute, led by our Executive Director Julia Brody, has studied methods for effective report-back of chemical biomonitoring results. We published a handbook to summarize our methods, which have been highlighted by NIEHS and adopted by other studies. We have used our new DERBI tool, which generates both print and online reports, to develop report-back for the Child Health and Development Studies and the CDC's Green Housing Study (examples provided at the bottom of this page). I think that DERBI could be a powerful and useful way to report results back to residents in communities affected by PFASs whose blood has been tested for PFOA and other PFASs.

Our research on Cape Cod drinking water began in 2010, and we've measured PFASs in both public and private drinking water wells. In a few wells, we found relatively high concentrations of PFOS, presumably from firefighting foams. We have also found lower concentrations of PFASs in many more wells that we think may be coming from septic systems. More broadly, our results have gotten me thinking about septic systems as sources of groundwater PFAS contamination, particularly in areas where drinking water has undergone contamination for extended periods of time such as Hoosick Falls, and the potential for plumes from residential areas served by septic systems to be a disperse source of PFASs even after implementation of drinking water treatment.

I was also a co-author on a recent paper, published in *ES&T Letters*, that analyzed associations between PFAS data collected through UCMR3 and the presence of contamination sources within sub-basins. The study traces possible sources of contamination to military fire training areas and airports, as well as industrial sites and wastewater treatment plants. While this paper provides a roadmap for identifying other water supplies at risk, the situation at Hoosick Falls demonstrates some of the limitations of this analysis, which did not include facilities such as Saint Gobain, nor small public water supplies or private wells.

I would welcome an opportunity to talk with you and learn more about how Region 2 is addressing PFASs, and I would also be happy to tell you more about our DERBI tool. Please let me know if there is a convenient time to talk sometime in the next couple of weeks.

Thank you in advance for your time!

Best regards,

Laurel

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